

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SECTION OF SILVICS, DISTRICT VI

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By T.T. Munger

After the establishment of the District Office at Portland, the Section of Silvics was engaged in the preparation of a report on "The Encroachment of Lodgepole Pine on Western Yellow Pine on the East Slopes of the Cascade Mountains in Oregon," the field work for which had been done in the three preceding months. This report recommended the forms of management to be used in the yellow pine type and in the lodgepole pine type and showed the need of extensive artificial reforestation of many waste and poorly forested areas in this region. This report has been approved, and referred to the Section of Planting, which is contemplating making experiments to determine practical ways for improving the condition of these unproductive areas.

For the coming field season it is proposed to make a careful silvical study of Douglas fir on the west side of the Cascade Mountains in Oregon and Washington. The objects of this study are –

1. To obtain definite information in regard to the silvical characteristics of Douglas fir, which will be useful in developing a practical silvicultural system for managing this tree in this region, both on private and National lands.
2. To obtain figures for the preparation of a merchantable volume table and of tables of the rate of growth of Douglas fir, which can be used in combination with stand measurements to show the yield obtainable under various conditions in various rotations.

An attempt will be made to collect all the reliable data regarding this tree which has already been obtained in this District, and this season to gather in the field supplementary data to make an authoritative, useful report on the silvicultural requirements, the rate of growth, and volume and stand tables for this tree. The study will be conducted in a great number of stands, representing a variety of localities and physical conditions and in many different aged forests, but chiefly in moderately pure stands, under a hundred years old.

During the coming year it is hoped to bring thoroughly up to date the records of cut-over areas on every National Forest. In the past these records have been neglected, largely because of a lack of knowledge of how to keep the records. As a result of some correspondence with Supervisors explaining to them the practical value of these records and offering suggestions as to the method of making examinations of cut-over areas, several Supervisors have showed their interest in keeping up these records and

signified their intention to make examinations of all their cut-over areas this coming field season.

The Supervisors have cooperated well in assisting in the establishment of meteorological stations on their Forests, and as a result it is probable that a number of mountain stations will be located in inaccessible places where no observations of climate have been made before.

A study of Cascara (*Rhamnus purshiana*), a tree which is rapidly becoming of decided economic importance and the stands of which are being rapidly depleted, has been undertaken by Professor Jepson, a collaborator in the Forest Service, but the conduct of this study will not be under the jurisdiction of the District Office.

(Signed) Thornton T. Munger